

# MEETING MINUTES

**MILPITAS PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**Milpitas City Hall, Council Chambers**  
**455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas, CA**

**Wednesday, May 10, 2017**

## I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**Chair Mandal** called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## II. ROLL CALL/ SEATING OF ALTERNATE

**Present:** Chair Mandal, Commissioners Sandhu, Ciardella, Morris, Maglalang, Mohsin

**Absent:** Madnawat  
Commissioner Chua was absent at roll call and arrived at 7:27 PM.

**Staff:** Bradley Misner, Katy Wisinski, Leslie Stobbe

### III. PUBLIC FORUM

**Chair Mandal** invited members of the audience to address the Commission and there were no speakers.

#### IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

**Chair Mandal** called for approval of the April 12, 2017 meeting minutes of the Planning Commission.

**Motion** to approve Planning Commission meeting minutes.

**Motion/Second:** Commissioner Sandhu/Commissioner Maglalang

AYES: 5

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN: 1 Ciardella

## V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Maglalang referenced a memorandum from former Interim Planning Director Bill Ekern which listed topics of interest which the commissioners would like to learn more about. Commissioner Maglalang would like to keep the list alive and have the items discussed in future meetings.

Planning Director Bradley Misner said the memo is timely as tonight there will be a training session for the commissioners. He will review the list and look for times throughout regularly scheduled meetings to bring training topics forward.

## VI. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

**Deputy City Attorney Katy Wisinski** asked if any member of the Commission had any personal or financial conflict of interest related to any of the items on the agenda.

There were no reported conflicts.

**VII. APPROVAL OF  
AGENDA**

**Chair Mandal** asked if staff or Commissioners had changes to the agenda and there were none.

**Motion** to approve the May 10, 2017 agenda as submitted.

Motion/Second: Commissioner Sandhu/Commissioner Ciardella

AYES: 6

NOES: 0

**VIII. CONSENT  
CALENDAR**

**NO ITEMS**

**IX. PUBLIC HEARING**

**NO ITEMS**

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**X-1 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN FRAMEWORK**

Leslie Stobbe explained that Green Infrastructure (GI) are systems that use vegetation, soils and natural processes to manage water and create healthier urban environments, and the framework is the outline of the plan. She reviewed permit requirements, which include the need to develop a GI Plan, adopt legal mechanisms to implement the plan, provide education and outreach, and conduct early implementation. Key deadlines include an approved GI Framework (work plan) by June 30, 2017, and a completed GI plan by September 2019.

Commissioner Mohsin asked what types of things are prioritized. Ms. Stobbe said the diversion of runoff to vegetated areas, pervious surfaces, and bio treatment and infiltration facilities are some of the most important things staff would like to have applicants apply to projects. She said most developments are prepared by people that already understand GI but guidelines and designs will be included in the plan check boxes.

Commissioner Maglalang believes it is a priority to build sidewalks to help make the city pedestrian friendly.

Commissioner Ciardella had a question about mercury levels and PCBs and Ms. Stobbe explained that GI is seen as a way of diverting those pollutants from the state's waterways.

Commissioner Sandhu asked how pollutants can be controlled in households. Ms. Stobbe said GI is a way to capture storm water from the streets but residential streets also generate runoff from landscaping. Over the last 20 years the Santa Clara Valley Urban Runoff Pollution Prevention program has

worked to get the message out about safer pesticides, encouraging people not to wash cars on the streets, etc. Staff shares information from the Watershed Watch website with the public and hosts an annual household waste collection event, the next one being held on June 24.

Chair Mandal said he wished the plan had come several years earlier and asked if there are current projects where the GI plan can be implemented. Ms. Stobbe said there are projects targeted that will benefit from GI elements included in their plans that are in various stages and have not yet been finalized or accepted. Many applicants have been aware of how their projects will be improved with GI and have been coming in over the years showing GI elements already, but this process will allow for staff to have the plan and point to the City's policy with confidence as to what the requirements and expectations are.

## **X-2**

### **PLANNING COMMISSION TRAINING SESSION**

Ms. Wisinski said the training serves to help maximize the effectiveness of the commissioners and make the most of the Planning Commission meetings. She reviewed goals of the commission, which include providing a fair, impartial forum for hearing land use applications, balancing analysis from staff with City goals, regulations, the applicant's request and public input, and making well considered decisions and recommendations supported by evidence.

Ms. Wisinski described the process projects go through prior to being presented to the commission, which includes environmental review, consultation with other departments and agencies, and public noticing. She said it is helpful for commissioners to contact staff with questions or concerns before meetings in order for them to provide more complete answers.

Commissioners should wait to reach a decision until the hearing is concluded and all interested persons have had an opportunity to speak and present information.

Commissioner Ciardella encouraged commissioners to contact staff with questions in advance of meetings, and said he is interested in receiving regular updates from Keyvan Irannejad in the Building department on the status of projects.

Chair Mandal asked if questions to staff should be copied to the commissioners and Ms. Wisinski said questions should only be sent to staff in order to avoid inadvertent Brown Act violations.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**      The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

**Motion** to adjourn to the next meeting.

Motion/Second: Commissioner Mohsin/Commissioner Sandhu

AYES: 6

NOES: 0

*Meeting Minutes submitted by  
Planning Secretary Elia Escobar*